

Pappas Telecasting
Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in
airtime to Republican candidates in
certain areas is yet another example
of a powerful media group abusing its
privileged access to the public
airwaves.

Localism is not served when a
corporate headquarters decides to
provide one side in local elections a
louder voice than others. During
election season, local audiences
should be offered genuine debate --
not disingenuous offers to "purchase"
an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free
of charge and is obligated by law to
serve the public interest. Pappas'
actions are legally questionable and
cast doubt on whether Pappas truly
intends to serve the public interest.
Their actions show why we need to
strengthen media ownership rules, not
weaken them. Further, they show why
the license renewal process needs to
involve more than just a returned
postcard. Thank you.